

together

SPRING 2025



together, we can feed everyone

MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



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OUR MISSION

The mission of Three Square Food Bank is to provide wholesome food to hungry people, while passionately pursuing a hunger-free community. Our vision is simple: no one in our community should be hungry. By bringing *together* the resources, experience and passion of the people and businesses of Southern Nevada, we can make sure no one has to. *Together*, we can feed everyone.

Three Square Food Bank is registered with the Secretary of State and qualified by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, and a member of Feeding America. Established in 2007, Three Square is Southern Nevada's only food bank and the area's largest hunger-relief organization. Your charitable contribution to Three Square is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Food for Thought

In times of uncertainty, the heart of our community shines brightest. You can see it in the determination of our staff and agencies working hard to end hunger. It shows in the generosity of donors and volunteers who find creative ways to help. It's felt in the gratitude of our neighbors who receive the food their families need. Every day, many individuals step up to meet the growing needs of Southern Nevadans.

Even during uncertain times, our commitment to our mission remains strong.

We know that the cost of living is rising and for many, the future feels unclear. Yet we remain committed to our vision of a hunger-free community. In this issue of *together*, you'll meet some incredible people who embody the spirit of our mission and the heart of our work. You'll read the inspiring stories of Destiny and Dalvado, young parents who asked for help from the food bank for the first time; George, a caring partner dedicated to our neighbors in need; and Dave, a devoted volunteer who sees his retirement as a chance to serve.

No matter where we come from or what challenges we face, when we unite to make a change for those facing hunger, our hearts beat as one. I am grateful to be part of this community that shows up, time and time again, to help those in need. Because of friends like you, we're closer to a future where no one goes hungry.

This spring, I invite you to continue standing with us in our fight against hunger. Now, more than ever, your involvement matters.

Gratefully,

Beth Martino

Beth Martino
President & CEO



Your support helps neighbors like Destiny (center) and Dalvado (right) get the food they need.

"We are grateful!"

"Things are hard with the high prices of groceries, especially with a newborn," says Destiny, who came to seek food assistance for the first time. She and her partner, Dalvon, are raising two young children, and despite having two incomes, money is often tight at the end of the month.

Through the generosity of the Elaine P. Wynn & Family Foundation and Three Square's partnership with Communities in Schools, the couple was able to access groceries for the whole family at a mobile school pantry near their home.

"This food means a lot to our family. It goes a long way, and we are grateful!"

— Destiny

"A great partnership!"

George Vaughn was living in Chicago in 2010 when he was struck with inspiration.

"It was a cold winter morning, sub-zero temperatures," he remembers. "I met a guy sleeping outside in a tent. **I knew in that moment I had to do something about this.**"

"That's when God gave me the vision for StreeHeat Ministries."

George launched the non-profit that year, with a mission to help neighbors who were facing homelessness, hunger, and other struggles while living on the streets.

When he moved to Las Vegas several years later for his retirement, he opened a second location of StreeHeat. It wasn't long before he connected with Three Square and has been a partner now for six years.

"We get a lot of supplies from Three Square," says George, pointing out stacks of 20- and 40-pound boxes from the food bank. "They are like gold."



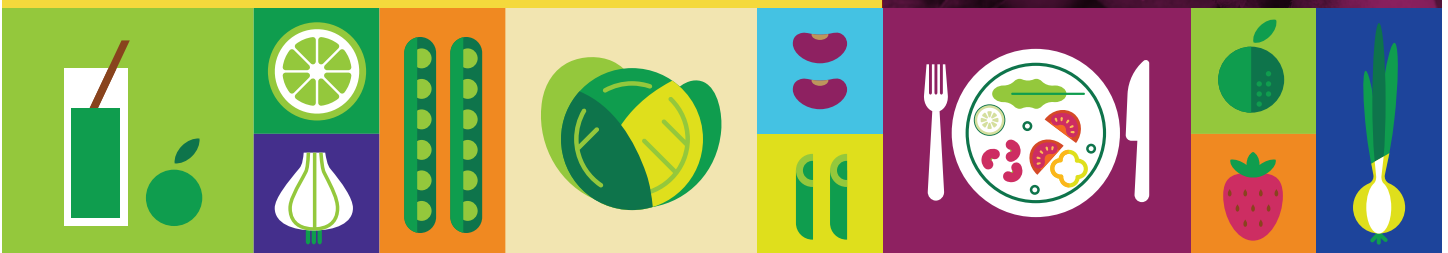
George holds two distributions per month to help the community. One is a walk-in event where he distributes up to 150 boxes of food to families in need. The second involves George going out into the streets, distributing bags of food to people who are homeless.

"It all adds up to feeding about 250 people per month," George says. He and his wife each contribute 10 percent of their pension funds to help pay overhead costs, but he says it simply wouldn't work without friends like you.

"If it wasn't for everyone who supports Three Square, there's no way in the world this could get done. It's a great partnership!"

— George

Because of your passion for helping neighbors, service-minded friends like George can get food to the people who need it most.



A most *rewarding* job

Joe Leininger spent almost 30 years in food service before coming to Three Square, where he's Executive Chef and Director of Culinary Operations.

He worked in casual restaurants. He worked in fine dining. But his favorite gig was preparing meals for residents in a senior living community.

"Mealtime is often the highlight of their day, and it's a privilege to be a part of that," Chef Joe says.

He's still making meals for seniors — about 1,000 per week. His team also makes about 1,000 meals for children every day.



Chef Joe always has a soft spot for our older neighbors.

"They've lived amazing lives and deserve the best we can give them," Chef Joe says. **"It's an honor to share the love with people and hopefully make their lives a bit better."**



Giving Society members *celebrated*

We recently honored members of our Giving Society, supporters who generously donate \$1,500 or more annually to Three Square. At the event, members took part in a volunteer experience, packing 613 bags of produce which were delivered the following day to neighbors in need. They also heard from our President and CEO, Beth Martino, and several of our agency partners — our "boots on the ground" who distribute food throughout the community.

Additionally, our Executive Chef, Joe Leininger (see story above), prepared his famous tomato soup for our guests.

Irma McDow, one of our philanthropy officers, organized the event and said that Giving Society members felt they were appreciated and enjoyed their time *together*. *"As a long-time supporter of Three Square, I feel incredibly blessed to be a part of this team and engage with such amazing donors,"* said Irma. *"It feels like my life, work, and passions have come full circle."*

If you're interested in becoming a Giving Society member, learn more at threesquare.org/givingsociety.



Volunteering: "You're helping the community"

When Dave retired from his job as an electrician, he started volunteering at Three Square. Since 2019, he has put in more than 3,000 hours, mostly sorting and counting bags of food for distribution.

When asked why he volunteers, Dave explains, *"Because you're helping the community, and it's fun. It's nice camaraderie, and we enjoy what we're doing here."*



Dave likes playing a part in putting food on people's tables. *"No one should go hungry,"* he says.

